

# AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS Canberra

CATALOGUE NO. 6311.0

NOON 29 JUNE 1978

## WAGE RATES INDEXES, APRIL 1978 (PRELIMINARY)

### INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Joe Christensen on Canberra 526573 or our State Office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

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### MAIN FEATURES

- The weighted average minimum weekly wage rates in April 1978 were \$151.18 for adult males and \$140.93 for adult females.
- The figures for adult males include retrospective increases (effective May 1977) for building workers and storemen and packers in New South Wales, and decreases for mine workers in New South Wales and metal refinery workers in South Australia due to a reduction in bonuses, etc.
- The figures for adult females include increases granted to hotel and tavern workers in Western Australia.

### EXPLANATORY NOTES

More information on these statistics of weighted average minimum weekly and hourly wage rates and index numbers for adult males and adult females will appear later in the monthly bulletin *Wage Rates* (6312.0) which also contains explanatory notes covering definitions, scope of the statistics, etc.

2. The wage rates used in the compilation of the indexes are the lowest rates for a full week's work (excluding overtime) prescribed for particular occupations in awards or determinations of Federal or State industrial authorities; in collective agreements registered with these authorities; or in unregistered collective agreements where these are dominant in particular industries. The indexes are designed to

measure movements in prescribed minimum rates of wages as distinct from salaries; those awards, etc. which relate solely or mainly to salary earners are therefore excluded. Because of delays in the receipt of notification of changes in wage rates as well as retrospective changes to rates, figures for the latest twelve months shown are subject to revision. As such revisions are made they are published in the normal monthly tables of this statement.

3. The indexes are designed to measure trends in wage rates in current awards, etc. excluding the effects of changes in the relative importance of industries, awards and occupations. The weighted average wage rates shown in these tables are therefore indexes expressed in money terms, and do not purport to be actual current averages. Similarly, neither these weighted average wage rates nor the corresponding index numbers measure the relative levels of average current wage rates as between States or industries.

4. For adult males the weekly wage rates exclude rural industry; in addition the hourly rates exclude shipping and stevedoring, for which data to compute hourly wages are not available. The weekly and hourly wage rates for adult females exclude rural industry, mining and quarrying and building and construction.

5. The annual changes shown in Tables 1, 2 and 4 measure the percentage change from the same month for the previous year. The percentages may fluctuate from month to month owing to the timing of significant award changes.

TABLE 1. WEEKLY AND HOURLY WAGE RATES: ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES  
ALL INDUSTRY GROUPS, AUSTRALIA (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; weighted average minimum hourly rates payable and index numbers of wage rates.

End of -	Adult males						Adult females					
	Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates			Weekly wage rates			Hourly wage rates		
	Wage rates \$	Annual change(a) %	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)		Wage rates \$	Annual change(a) %	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)	Wage rates (cents)	Index Nos. (1954 = 100) (b)	
1977 -												
April	141.26	12.2	500.2	352.70	498.5		131.64	13.2	661.2	331.82	661.4	
May	143.95	11.1	509.7	359.39	508.0		134.11	11.9	673.7	338.07	673.9	
June	143.95	11.0	509.7	359.40	508.0		134.12	11.4	673.7	338.08	673.9	
July	143.96	10.9	509.7	359.43	508.0		134.13	11.4	673.8	338.11	673.9	
August	146.73	10.8	519.5	366.32	517.8		136.79	11.2	687.1	344.81	687.3	
September	146.83	10.9	519.9	366.58	518.1		136.79	11.2	687.1	344.81	687.3	
October	146.84	10.9	519.9	366.83	518.5		136.80	11.2	687.2	344.85	687.4	
November	146.84	8.6	519.9	366.83	518.5		136.80	8.8	687.2	344.85	687.4	
December	148.98	10.1	527.5	372.19	526.1		138.83	10.4	697.4	349.97	697.6	
1978 -												
January	149.00	10.1	527.6	372.22	526.1		138.87	10.4	697.5	350.05	697.7	
February	151.20	11.5	535.4	377.73	533.9		140.92	11.7	707.8	355.22	708.0	
March	151.20	7.2	535.4	377.75	533.9		140.92	7.1	707.8	355.22	708.0	
April	151.18	7.0	535.3	377.69	533.8		140.93	7.1	707.9	355.26	708.1	

(a) See explanatory notes above. (b) Base: Weighted average wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.



TABLE 2. WEEKLY WAGE RATES ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 30 APRIL 1978 (b)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual change (a) %	Index Nos. (Base 1954 = 100)
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia	Australia
Mining and quarrying (b)	208.56	146.32	189.10	144.25	150.33	162.03	188.24	6.7	666.5
Manufacturing —									
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	138.55	144.29	150.80	142.38	143.46	142.69	142.00	7.0	502.8
Textiles, clothing and footwear	138.56	139.41	141.83	138.19	142.58	134.73	139.16	7.1	492.7
Food, drink and tobacco	147.17	147.99	151.08	142.51	151.99	146.09	148.05	7.1	524.2
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	145.20	137.95	150.01	137.67	145.10	137.19	143.51	7.0	508.1
Paper, printing, etc.	147.07	155.37	164.59	153.19	157.02	147.42	152.31	6.9	539.3
Other manufacturing	145.55	145.39	146.82	144.40	144.56	138.95	145.29	7.1	514.5
All manufacturing groups	141.82	144.66	150.66	142.81	145.71	142.14	143.95	7.0	509.7
Building and construction	167.74	165.12	153.55	159.97	161.24	150.71	162.54	7.0	575.5
Railway services	137.33	132.20	154.34	137.52	126.83	137.73	139.53	6.5	494.0
Road and air transport	153.71	145.11	144.79	144.84	149.07	148.10	148.97	7.1	527.5
Shipping and stevedoring (c)	185.09	184.37	176.55	174.57	186.02	181.02	182.06	7.1	644.6
Communication	178.95	179.87	178.55	177.53	179.54	174.22	178.91	7.4	633.5
Wholesale and retail trade	150.80	152.51	151.94	147.25	148.46	152.30	150.95	7.1	534.5
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	155.87	152.62	158.25	144.46	150.08	165.37	154.17	6.9	545.9
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	143.26	139.27	141.53	135.79	132.71	134.02	140.17	7.2	496.3
All industry groups (a)	152.14	149.61	155.06	147.70	149.76	149.62	151.18	7.0	535.3

For footnotes see Table below.

TABLE 3. HOURLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 30 APRIL 1978 (a)

Weighted average minimum hourly rates payable and index numbers of hourly rates.

Industry group	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust.
Wage rates (cents)							
Mining and quarrying (b)	583.43	365.79	499.20	360.64	393.90	414.20	507.95
Manufacturing —							
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	346.50	360.98	377.23	355.95	358.97	356.73	355.16
Textiles, clothing and footwear	346.39	348.52	354.57	345.46	356.46	336.81	347.89
Food, drink and tobacco	368.43	369.99	377.71	356.27	379.97	365.21	370.28
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	363.00	344.88	375.04	344.18	362.76	342.97	358.78
Paper, printing, etc.	367.67	388.99	411.46	382.98	400.49	368.56	381.27
Other manufacturing	363.86	362.80	367.04	361.85	360.57	347.66	363.38
All manufacturing groups	354.68	361.87	376.74	357.18	364.57	355.38	360.04
Building and construction	419.35	412.79	383.89	399.93	403.11	376.77	406.35
Railway services	343.32	330.85	385.85	343.81	317.07	344.33	348.90
Road and air transport	384.28	362.77	361.97	362.10	372.69	370.24	372.41
Communication	468.81	469.96	466.52	470.09	469.09	456.40	468.51
Wholesale and retail trade	376.99	381.28	379.85	368.13	371.15	380.74	377.37
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	397.34	392.01	400.39	368.24	379.19	419.85	392.80
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	358.14	348.17	353.83	339.48	331.77	335.04	350.42
All industry groups (a)	381.10	373.11	387.58	367.68	373.81	370.50	377.69
Index numbers (Base : Weighted average hourly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100)							
Mining and quarrying (b)	824.6	517.0	705.6	509.7	556.8	585.4	718.0
Manufacturing —							
Engineering, metals, vehicles, etc.	489.7	510.2	533.2	503.1	507.4	504.2	502.0
Textiles, clothing and footwear	489.6	492.6	501.2	488.3	503.8	476.1	491.7
Food, drink and tobacco	520.7	522.9	533.9	503.6	537.1	516.2	523.4
Sawmilling, furniture, etc.	513.1	487.5	530.1	486.5	512.7	484.8	507.1
Paper, printing, etc.	519.7	549.8	581.6	541.3	566.1	520.9	538.9
Other manufacturing	514.3	514.2	518.8	511.4	509.6	491.4	513.6
All manufacturing groups	501.3	511.5	532.5	504.9	515.3	502.3	508.9
Building and construction	592.7	583.5	542.6	565.3	569.8	532.5	574.4
Railway services	485.3	467.6	545.4	486.0	448.2	486.7	493.1
Road and air transport	543.1	512.8	511.6	511.8	526.8	523.3	526.4
Communication	662.6	664.3	659.4	664.4	663.0	645.1	662.2
Wholesale and retail trade	532.9	538.9	536.9	520.3	524.6	538.1	533.4
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	561.6	554.1	565.9	520.5	536.0	593.4	555.2
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	506.2	492.1	500.1	479.8	468.9	473.6	495.3
All industry groups (a)	538.7	527.4	547.8	519.7	528.4	523.7	533.8

(a) See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) For mining, wage rates used are those prescribed for the principal mining centres and include lead bonuses, etc. (c) Includes wage rates (and value of keep) for occupations in the coastal shipping service, other than masters, officers and engineers.



TABLE 4. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT FEMALES, INDUSTRY GROUPS, 30 APRIL 1978 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements; and index numbers of wage rates.

Industry group	Wage rates (\$)							Annual Index Nos. change (a) (Base 1954 = % 100) (b)	
	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia	Australia	Australia
Manufacturing —									
Engineering, metals, vehicles etc.	135.49	142.72	137.86	136.61	139.32	137.34	138.17	7.1	694.1
Textiles, clothing and footwear	133.50	132.51	133.02	135.03	134.55	129.80	133.02	7.1	668.2
Food, drink and tobacco	140.05	140.06	141.99	138.44	127.65	135.19	139.35	7.2	700.0
Other manufacturing	137.38	139.57	141.06	136.16	136.45	132.51	138.23	7.1	694.4
All manufacturing groups	135.62	136.16	137.19	136.40	133.95	132.71	135.90	7.1	682.7
Transport and communication	142.09	144.25	148.79	147.42	140.90	149.88	144.32	7.0	724.9
Wholesale and retail trade	148.64	152.63	149.52	148.12	146.03	141.06	149.35	7.0	750.2
Public authority (n.e.i.) and community and business services	147.87	147.96	145.69	141.53	142.51	145.87	146.79	7.0	737.3
Amusement, hotels, personal service, etc.	138.27	135.29	133.69	131.88	126.88	129.58	135.41	7.3	680.2
All industry groups (a)	140.78	141.04	142.84	140.98	139.25	136.93	140.93	7.1	707.9

(a) See explanatory notes on page 1. (b) Base : Weighted average weekly wage rate, Australia, year 1954 = 100.

TABLE 5. WEEKLY WAGE RATES : ADULT MALES AND ADULT FEMALES, ALL GROUPS (a) (\$)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as prescribed in awards, determinations and collective agreements.

End of —	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia		
							Federal awards, etc.	State awards, etc.	All awards, etc.
ADULT MALES (a)									
1977 —									
April	142.14	139.85	144.91	137.96	139.72	139.93	141.75	140.67	141.26
May	144.97	142.47	147.63	140.55	141.99	142.50	144.40	143.41	143.95
June	144.96	142.47	147.63	140.64	141.99	142.50	144.40	143.41	143.95
July	144.97	142.47	147.63	140.67	142.02	142.50	144.40	143.44	143.96
August	147.77	145.30	150.53	143.42	144.05	145.35	147.23	146.12	146.73
September	147.74	145.30	150.53	143.41	145.62	145.35	147.23	146.34	146.83
October	147.74	145.32	150.54	143.42	145.66	145.35	147.24	146.35	146.84
November	147.74	145.33	150.54	143.42	145.66	145.35	147.24	146.35	146.84
December	149.91	147.45	152.76	145.55	147.73	147.46	149.37	148.52	148.98
1978 —									
January	149.92	147.45	152.76	145.55	147.84	147.46	149.37	148.55	149.00
February	152.19	149.61	155.02	147.72	149.73	149.62	151.58	150.73	151.20
March	152.20	149.61	155.06	147.72	149.73	149.62	151.58	150.75	151.20
April	152.14	149.61	155.06	147.70	149.76	149.62	151.58	150.70	151.18
ADULT FEMALES (a)									
1977 —									
April	131.52	131.77	133.41	131.68	129.66	127.85	125.07	137.34	131.64
May	134.01	134.26	135.94	134.17	131.85	130.28	127.44	139.91	134.11
June	134.01	134.26	135.94	134.20	131.85	130.28	127.44	139.91	134.12
July	134.01	134.26	135.94	134.20	132.13	130.28	127.44	139.94	134.13
August	136.68	136.92	138.66	136.87	134.46	132.90	129.98	142.70	136.79
September	136.68	136.92	138.66	136.87	134.46	132.90	129.98	142.70	136.79
October	136.68	136.92	138.66	136.87	134.75	132.90	129.98	142.72	136.80
November	136.68	136.92	138.66	136.87	134.75	132.90	129.98	142.72	136.80
December	138.72	138.97	140.73	138.91	136.54	134.91	131.92	144.83	138.83
1978 —									
January	138.72	138.97	140.73	138.91	137.19	134.91	131.92	144.90	138.87
February	140.78	141.04	142.84	140.98	138.98	136.93	133.89	147.02	140.92
March	140.78	141.04	142.84	140.98	138.98	136.93	133.89	147.02	140.92
April	140.78	141.04	142.84	140.98	139.25	136.93	133.89	147.04	140.93

(a) See explanatory notes on page 1.

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TABLE 1. WEEKLY WAGE RATES: ADULT FEMALE, INDUSTRY GROUP, 30 APRIL 1978 (a)

Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as presented in the  
 Determinations and collective agreements, and index numbers of wage rates

Industry group	Index number (1974 = 100)	Weighted average minimum weekly rates payable for a full week's work (excluding overtime), as presented in the Determinations and collective agreements, and index numbers of wage rates	Annual index number change (a) (Base 1974 = 100) (b)
All industry groups (a)	100	100.00	100.00
Manufacturing -	100	100.00	100.00
Engineering, metal, vehicle etc.	100	100.00	100.00
Textiles, clothing and footwear	100	100.00	100.00
Food, drink and tobacco	100	100.00	100.00
Other manufacturing	100	100.00	100.00
All manufacturing groups	100	100.00	100.00
Transport and communication	100	100.00	100.00
Wholesale and retail trade	100	100.00	100.00
Public authority (a.e.l.) and	100	100.00	100.00
Community and business services	100	100.00	100.00
Amusement, hotels, personal services etc.	100	100.00	100.00
All industry groups (a)	100	100.00	100.00
Non-manufacturing	100	100.00	100.00
Wholesale and retail trade	100	100.00	100.00
Public authority (a.e.l.) and	100	100.00	100.00
Community and business services	100	100.00	100.00
Amusement, hotels, personal services etc.	100	100.00	100.00
All industry groups (a)	100	100.00	100.00



(a) For mining, wage rates are based on those for the principal mining centres and include local  
 and cross-country rates for other centres, other than mining, service, and other rates for other centres.